Message Text

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CY, PFOR

SUBJECT: SISCO'S MEETING WITH CYPRIOT AMBASSADOR DIMITRIOU

- 1. AMBASSADOR OF CYPRUS IN WASHINGTON DIMITRIOU CALLED ON UNDERSECRETARY SISCO OCTOBER 10 FOR TOUR D'HORIZON. DIMITRIOU OBSERVED THAT WITH TURKISH ARMS EMBARGO PARTIALLY LIFTED AN OBSTACLE HAD BEEN REMOVED AND HE HOPED TO HAVE AN INDICATION OF STEPS THE US INTENDED TO TAKE.
- 2. SISCO REPLIED THAT USG HAD REACHED NO SPECIFIC CONCLUSIONS AS TO HOW TO PROCEED, THOUGH IT WAS UNDERSTOOD THAT FOLLOWING LIFTING OF THE ARMS EMBARGO AND AFTER TURKISH SENATE ELECTIONS THE US WOULD BE INVOLVED IN TRYING TO MOVE CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS FORWARD. HOWEVER, NO ONE COULD BE SURE WHAT WOULD COME OF US EFFORTS. SECRET

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- 3. THERE WAS AGREEMENT THAT IT WAS DIFFICULT TO PREDICT HOW TURKISH SENATE ELECTIONS WOULD AFFECT THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT'S ABILITY TO MOVE TOWARD A CYPRUS SOLUTION. DIMITRIOU ECHOED MAKARIOS' PESSIMISM, BUT APPEARED EAGER TO HAVE US INVOLVEMENT TO TEST TURKISH INTENTIONS. HE EXPRESSED VIEW THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR US ROLE TO BE COORDINATED WITH THAT OF THE EC-9, AND SISCO REPLIED THAT THIS SHOULD NOT BE A PROBLEM.
- 4. DIMITRIOU REVEALED "IN CONFIDENCE" THAT MAKARIOS WAS NOT COUNTING ON RUSSIANS TO BE HELPFUL SINCE THEY WERE PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN HOW THE CYPRUS ISSUE COULD WEAKEN WESTERN UNITY.
- 5. DIMITRIOU SAID HE WISHED TO RAISE "A DELICATE QUESTION." HE HAD HEARD REPORTS THAT AMBASSADOR TASCA'S TESTIMONY TO THE PIKE COMMITTEE HAD SUGGESTED THAT WHEN ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN VISITED ATHENS IN THE SUMMER OF 1974, HE HAD ASKED THE GREEK GOVERNMENT TO KEEP MAKARIOS OUT OF CYPRUS, AND THIS WAS THE MAIN PURPOSE OF ATHENS VISIT. SISCO DESCRIBED THIS REPORT AS NONSENSE AND REVIEWED US ATTITUDE TOWARD MAKARIOS, INCLUDING OUR WARNING HIM OF A COUP ATTEMPT SEVERAL YEARS AGO AND ASKING HIS VIEW OF THE POSSIBILITY OF A COUP IN 1974. DIMITRIOU CONFIRMED THAT FROM HIS DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON HE HAD NO PROBLEM WITH US ATTITUDE TOWARD MAKARIOS. HE EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR SISCO'S CLARIFICATION.
- 6. RE ELEMENTS OF A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT, DIMITRIOU MENTION-ED MAKARIOS' POSITION THAT WHETHER SYSTEM WAS MULTI- OR BI- ZONAL WAS UNIMPORTANT. HE SAID HE AGREED WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER THAT IT WAS MORE USEFUL TO TALK OF SPECIFIC AREAS RATHER THAN PERCENTAGES. "AS A BUSINESS-MAN" DIMITRIOU STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF A CYPRUS SOLUTION. KISSINGER

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